

and Planting, p. 260; and Pearson, Commercial Guide to the Forest Economic Products of India, p. 68.)

*Opuntia ficus-indica* (Cactaceae), 54689. **Indian fig.** From Valetta, Malta. Cuttings presented by Societa Economica Agraria del Gruppo di Malta, Valetta, through Mr. Carl Loop, American consul. These cuttings were received in response to a request for propagating material of a nearly spineless variety introduced from Malta in 1903 (under S.P.I. No.9352) and said to bear yellowish orange fruits the size of a goose egg, of good flavor, and containing less than a dozen seeds.

*Prunus mume* (Amygdalaceae), 54709 to 54725. **Japanese apricot.** From Okitsu, Shiznokaken, Japan. Budwood presented by Prof. T. Onda, Bureau of Horticulture, Imperial Agricultural Experiment Station. Quoted notes by Prof. Onda unless otherwise specified. "The first trees to flower this spring at Dr. David Fairchild's home, 'In the Woods,' near Washington, D. C., were the mumes or Japanese apricots. Nearly two weeks before the earliest of the flowering cherries were showing color,--even before the forsythias commenced to bloom,--the mumes were filling the yard with the fragrance of spring and brightening it with huge splotches of color.

"Doubtless our appreciation of these trees is increased by the fact that they are the first of all to bloom, but even after the cherries have commenced to flower, the mumes do not fail to delight us with their delicacy of color and their delicious fragrance, in which latter characteristic they possess a noteworthy advantage over the flowering cherries. Some of them have semidouble flowers an inch and a half in diameter and of the loveliest shade of pink imaginable; others are quite double, smaller and rose-red, and still others single white, double white, and so forth.

"It seems remarkable that Americans have not yet learned to appreciate these trees, and to plant them abundantly in all those parts of the country where they can be grown. Prof. Onda, in presenting the following excellent collection of varieties, has rendered a distinct service to American horticulture." (Wilson Popenoe.)

54709. "'Beni Kaga.' An early-flowering variety with medium-sized white flowers followed by medium-sized fruits."

54710. "'Beni Sashi.' An early-flowering variety